



A STUDY IN
The Gospel According to Luke
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With my whole heart have I sought thee; O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. Ps.119:10,11

Luke, the beloved physician of (*Colossians 4:14*), fellow-laborer in spreading the gospel of the apostle Paul was one of many authors of his day, to write narratives on the life of Jesus (Luke 1:1). The Bible says that “*not many wise are called*” (1Cor. 1:26), Evidently, Dr. Luke is one of the few “wise” that were- called by the Holy Spirit for this witness of the earthly life, ministry, and sacrifice of our Lord. Lukes gospel should be understood not as an eyewitness of all he reports, but as one claiming a contemporary knowledge of facts pertaining to Christ; some of which were current and some of which were went back years in his life, when he had associated with apostles, eyewitnesses and possibly with friends and relatives of Christ. Both Luke (*being a Doctor*) and Paul (*being a Pharisee of the highest degree*) belonged to the category of “wise” (*great intellects*). This may give partial explanation as to why they became so close as they ministered together. Dr. Luke would be a considered a Scientist, in his day, and an accurate historian. Luke writes his gospel from the viewpoint of Mary which gives credence to the *tradition* that he received his information from her (*though not all*). Most scholars believe the Luke was a Gentile (*as do I*); mainly because of what is written by the Apostle Paul (*Col. 4:7-17*) where he names co-laborer who are of the “circumcision” (*Jews*) and others (*non-Jews*) at which time Luke is named.

Lukes gospel covers all the major facts. His gospel contains many particulars that don’t appear in the others, and most generally represents the life of Christ. Luke also wrote the book of **The Acts** of the Apostles, where-in we learn that he was a companion of the Apostle Paul (*Acts 16:11*) where he writes in the first-person (*he speaks as being present*) not third-person (*reporting the details, not personally witnessing them*). So it can be reasonably concluded that from Acts 16 on... Luke faithfully accompanied Paul through-out what is called the Second Missionary Journey and (*I believe*) the Third, as Paul seems to share that Luke was with him until the very end (*2 Tim. 4:11*). Matthew emphasizes the Jesus was born Messiah, Mark emphasizes that Jesus is the Servant of Jehovah (Yahweh), Luke stresses the fact that Jesus was the Perfect Man and Savior of Men, our great High Priest, touched with the feeling of our infirmities, able to give help and mercy with His love, John presents the fact that God became a Man. Luke wrote to his countrymen, the Greek mind, the intellectual community. The Greeks sought to perfect themselves with great intellectual achievement, and the more they sought and pursued greatness (*perfection*) through worldly knowledge, the more darkened their hearts and minds became to things spiritual.

This is the reason they made an image to “THE UNKNOWN GOD” (*Acts 17:23, 32*) and mocked the Gospel. They didn't know that Jesus was indeed “The Perfect Man” suitable to Save Men! In conclusion, Dr. Luke was no mere spectator, viewing Christian truth from outside, but an active preacher and missionary himself. He was the first great church historian and literary apologist for the Faith. Since he was an associate of Paul, his work would no doubt be expected to reflect the knowledge of Christ that was used in the preaching of the gospel to the Gentiles.

Consider: Dr. Luke has the longest account of the virgin birth of Jesus

Dr. Luke gives us 20 of the 37ish miracles of Jesus. 6 of them are found nowhere else
He gives us 20 parables, 18 are found nowhere else

Luke's Gospel

Outline

Introduction: Purpose of the Gospel (Ch. 1:1-4)

1. The Preparation for the Savior (1:5-2:52)
 - A. Announcements of the births of John the Baptist & Jesus (1:5-56)
(*Gabriel appears to Zacharias & Mary*)
 - B. Mary visits Elisabeth (1:39-56)
 - C. The birth of John (1:57-80)
 - D. The birth & childhood of Jesus (2:1-52)
2. The Introduction of the Savior (3:1– 4:15)
 - A. The Ministry of John (3:1-20)
 - B. The Baptism of Jesus (3:21-22)
 - C. The Genealogy (3:23-38)
 - D. The Temptation (4:1-13)
 - E. The Return to Galilee (4:14-15)
3. The Ministry of the Savior (4:16-9:50)
 - A. His Announcement of Purpose (4:16-44)
 - B. His Manifestation of Power (5:1-6:11)
 - C. His Appointment of Apostles (6:12-19)
 - D. His Principles of Providence (6:20-49)
 - E. His Ministry of Compassion ((7:1-9:17)
 - F. His Revelation of the Cross (9:18-50)
4. The Mission of the Savior (9:51-18:30)
 - A. The Public Challenge (9:51-62)
 - B. The Appointment of the 70 (10:1-24)
 - C. The Teaching of the Kingdom (10:25-13:21)
 - D. The Rise of Public Conflict (13:22-16:21)
 - E. The Instruction of the Disciples (17:1-18:30)
5. The Passion of the Savior (18:31-23:56)
 - A. Events on the Way to Jerusalem (18:31-19:27)
 - B. Arrival at Jerusalem (19:28-44)
 - C. Conflict at Jerusalem (19:45-21:4)
 - D. Predictions Concerning Jerusalem (21:5-38)
 - E. The Last Supper (22:1-38)
 - F. The Betrayal (22:39-53)
 - G. The Arrest & Trial of Jesus (22:54-23:25)
 - H. The Crucifixion & Burial of Jesus (23:26-56)
6. The Resurrection of the Savior (24:1-53)
 - A. The Empty Tomb (24:1-12)
 - B. The Appearance at Emmaus (24:13-35)
 - C. The Appearance to the Disciples (24:36-43)
 - D. The Commission & the Ascension (24:44-53)